Schemes for promotion and Development of small scale industries. The new schemes have been formulated broadly to operationalise the policy measures for promoting and strengthening small, tiny and village enterprises announced on 6th August, 1991.

(c) to (e) The Union Budget for 1994-95 has introduced significant changes in the Central Excise and Customs duties in accordance with the economic liberalisation and reform programme launched by the Government. A number of representations of Associations and Federations of Small Scale Sector and their constituent units seeking restoration of concessions available till 1994-95 Budget have been received. While the representations mention that a number of small scale units have either closed down or on the verge of closure, there is no concrete evidence to prove the same. The proposals with regard to the adverse Impact of the Budget on the Small Scale Sector have been sent to the Ministry of Finance for consideration. The Ministry of Finance have since extended full exemption to Small Scale Units from excise duty on items like Compounded rubber used Captively, handkerchiefs, shawls and other Clothing accessories, parts of footware used captively, umbrellas, etc. Besides, excise duty concessions have also been provided to woollen fabrics, narrow woven fabrics, etc. Central Government are also considering grievances of Small Scale Industries of different states in close liaison with different States.

Statement

List of New Schemes formulated by Govt. of India for Small Scale Industries

1. New Tool Rooms
2. Setting up of Entrepreneurship Development Institutes
3. Design cell for Foot Wear and Leather goods industry for Northern Eastern and Western Region.
4. Mini Tool Rooms
5. Integrated Infrastructural Development for SSI in Rural/backward areas.
6. CAD/CAM Centre, Madras
7. Modernisation of GFTC Madras and Agra
8. Testing Centres by Industry Associations
9. Policy oriented Research Studies
10. Training for bare foot Manager through NGO etc.
11. Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana
12. Export Development Centre
13. Upgradation of production Centre
14. SIDO Information and Resource Centre
15. Scheme for Intensive Development of Rural Industries.
16. Technology Upgradation.
17. Energy Conservation
18. Modernisation of SIDO Library.

Procurements of shot blasting plants by M/s Braithwaite Ltd.

1461. SHRI MD. SALIM:
SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s Braithwaite Ltd. of BBUNL has issued letter of intent for procurement of three shot blasting plants costing more than Rs. 1 crore each, for cleaning external surface of Railway wagons;

(b) if so, what was the urgency of procuring such a costly item when Braithwaite, a sick company referred

to BIFR, has not been getting adequate orders from Railways and its revival scheme is yet to be finalised by BIFR;

(c) whether the LOI was issued based on a limited tender basis and if so, whether it is a fact that the LOI has been issued to a bidder which has its company incorporated *in 1993 only with its manufacturing* facility in India and what has been *their previous record in supplying* such equipment in India;

(d) whether it is a fact that CBI has started investigation in this deal as it appears prima facie that a favour has been done to the prospective supplier; and

(e) if so, whether the persons connected with the tendering process have *shifted to facilitate* an impartial enquiry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) M/s Braithwaite & Company Ltd. has issued a Latter of Intent for procurement of one shot blasting plant only costing Rs. 1,00,10,676/-.

(b) Ministry of Railways are virtually the sole buyers of wagons manufactured in the country. That Ministry had issued instructions to all *wagons manufacturers both in private* and public sector, that the wagons *manufacturers* should place orders for shot blasting equipment latest by November end 1993 failing which Ministry of Railways would not place orders for wagons on such of those companies as had not complied with this requirement.

(c) Yes, Sir. The deal was finalised on the basis of limited tenders to indigenous parties after global bids were found exorbitantly high and were rejected. The Letter of Intent was issued on M/s Pangborn (India) Ltd., a company promoted by a US firm M/s Pangborn Corporation in 1993, which has also stood guarantee/warranty for any defect or failure of the plant.

(d) and (e) One of the parties who lost the bid has complained to CBI. As asked for by CBI, entire documents of the deal have been sent to them.

PSUs Undergoing Financial Losses

1462. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) *what is the total number of* Public Sector Undertakings undergoing financial losses;

(b) how Government propose to remedy the working of such undertakings;

(c) whether any proposal for privatisation of Public Sector Undertakings is under the consideration of Government; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and how the services of the surplus employees are proposed to be regulated?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SMT. KRISHNA SAHI): (a) 104 Central Public Sector Enterprises *incurred losses during 1992-93.*

(b) Improving the performance of Central PSEs is a continuous process. Enterprise specific action is taken by the administrative Ministries/Departments and the enterprises concerned to improve the performance. Some of the measures taken are modernisation and rehabilitation plan, financial, managerial and organisational restructuring, change in product-mix, technological upgradation, signing of Memorandum of Understanding, etc.